

The Old Star-Democrat Building
Seven East Dover Street
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-3
1868
(mid 19th century)

The two-and-a-half story brick building represents a survival of an earlier building form into the middle of the nineteenth century. Its gable roof, terminating against brick curtains, enclosed end chimneys, and sash windows are architectural elements which may be seen in buildings constructed in Easton in the 1790's. The tall proportions of the building, as well as the robust, carved, wooden cornice and lintels are characteristics of late nineteenth century structures. This handsome, lively building was for many years the home of the town's oldest newspaper, The Star-Democrat.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

21000344 11
T 3

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Star Democrat Building

AND/OR COMMON

Side entrance to Atkinson's Store

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

7 East Dover Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

FIRST

STATE

Maryland 21601

COUNTY

Talbot

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

—PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

—BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

—UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

—NO

PRESENT USE

—AGRICULTURE

☒ COMMERCIAL

—EDUCATIONAL

—ENTERTAINMENT

—GOVERNMENT

—INDUSTRIAL

—MILITARY

—MUSEUM

—PARK

—PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—RELIGIOUS

—SCIENTIFIC

—TRANSPORTATION

—OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

H. B. Atkinson

Telephone #: 301-822-1035

STREET & NUMBER

306 South Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

1967 Survey of Easton by Paul Brinkman

DATE

August 29, 1967

—FEDERAL ☒ STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This tall brick building stands on the north side of Dover Street, near the corner of Washington Street. At its west side is a small brick structure, probably constructed about the same time as the large building to which it is attached. Now these buildings are connected in an "L" to #4 North Washington, (T-402); Atkinson's, a department store, has occupied these buildings since 1944. Number 7 Dover, once a fine office building is now known merely as the "side entrance to Atkinson's".

The main building is three stories in height and four bays wide. There is an attic under the A-roof but apparently there have never been dormers. The building is faced with smooth red-orange brick laid in common bond with narrow mortar joints.

There is a very narrow chimney at each gable end and a roof curtain. There are two small attic windows in each gable end wall on either side of the chimney; they are closed with metal blinds. The windows on the front facade have been filled in; trim and sash have been removed. Above each window is a flat arch of widely splayed gauged brick.

The cornice with a return is very prominent; the crown mold remains, as does the box cornice. For a description of its former details the report of the 1967 Survey of Easton must be quoted: "A very heavy and elaborately carved cornice runs along the front roof edge. There is a heavy crown molding with a row of deeply carved and scrolled modillions. There are pendant drops at each corner. Below the modillions is a frieze of stylized acanthus leaves and a white molded board." The shop front has completely obscured details of the first floor facade.

The small building retains more of its exterior detail. It is two stories in height and two bays wide on Dover Street. Its A-roof - without dormers - covers a building two bays deep. The store front has covered over the original details on the first floor, but the second floor windows and cornice retain the heavily carved, large scale ornament the larger building has lost. The cornice has a row of dentils and bracketts deeply carved in a foliated motif. Above each second floor window is a hood with molded details which is supported by consoles decorated with acanthus leaves. One 6/6 sash remains.

Inside the buildings are completely modern. Having been attached to the Washington Street building, neither gives the appearance of being a complete building.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

T-3

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Mid Nineteenth Century BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is significant for its architecture and because of its association with the Star Democrat newspaper.

The structure represents a survival of an earlier building form into the middle of the nineteenth century. Its gable roof which terminates against brick curtains, enclosed end chimneys and sash windows with many small lights are architectural elements which may be seen in buildings constructed here in the 1790's. The tall proportions of the building and diminished importance of the chimney, however, are characteristics of late nineteenth century buildings, as is the robust applied wood decoration. This handsome and lively building, clearly transitional in design, was once one of the most important in the town.

L161/F59

L282/F206

L75/F265

L73/F213

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Courthouse.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY NA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

NA

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE NA COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Historic Easton, Incorporated

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1171

CITY OR TOWN

Easton

DATE

August 17, 1976

TELEPHONE Mr. Paul Parsons,
(301) 822-2706 Pres.


STATE

Maryland 21601

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

<p>1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Talbot TOWN Easton VICINITY STREET NO. Dover Street</p> <p>ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE Store ? PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE Store and warehouse WALL CONSTRUCTION common bond NO. OF STORIES 3½ w/2½ addition</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY</p> <p>2. NAME T-3</p> <p>DATE OR PERIOD 1868 (dated) STYLE Late Federal with Victorian ARCHITECT trim BUILDER</p> <p>3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE</p>	
<p>4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC</p> <p>This is an interesting example of the carry over of Federal styles into Victorian times. This building is dated with a corner-stone at 1868 but could have been built in 1810. It is a 3 storey A roofed brick structure with an enclosed chimney in each end wall. The first floor is now occupied by a shopfront. The 2nd and 3rd storey windows have been blocked up but have flat arches of polished brick. A very heavy and elaborately carved cornice runs along the front roof edge. There is a heavy crown molding with a row of deeply carved and scrolled modillions. There are pendant drops at each corner. Below the modillions is a frieze of stylized acanthus leaves and a white molded board. The cornice is very heavy and deeply carved and almost seems too elaborate for the simple Federal styled building.</p> <p>Attached to the left side of this structure is a small 2 1/2 storey 2 bay wide brick A roof addition probably built about 1880. This addition has a cornice of dentils and carved brackets. The 2 second storey windows have heavy cornices held up by acanthus carved brackets. The first floor is now a shopfront.</p>			
<p>5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior poor</p>			
<p>6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>		<p>7. PHOTOGRAPH</p>	
<p>8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.</p>		<p>9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Paul A. Brinkman</p> <p>DATE OF RECORD August 28, 1967</p>	

EASTON
HISTORIC
DISTRICT
T-41015

T-3
Star-Democrat Building, 7 E. Dover St.

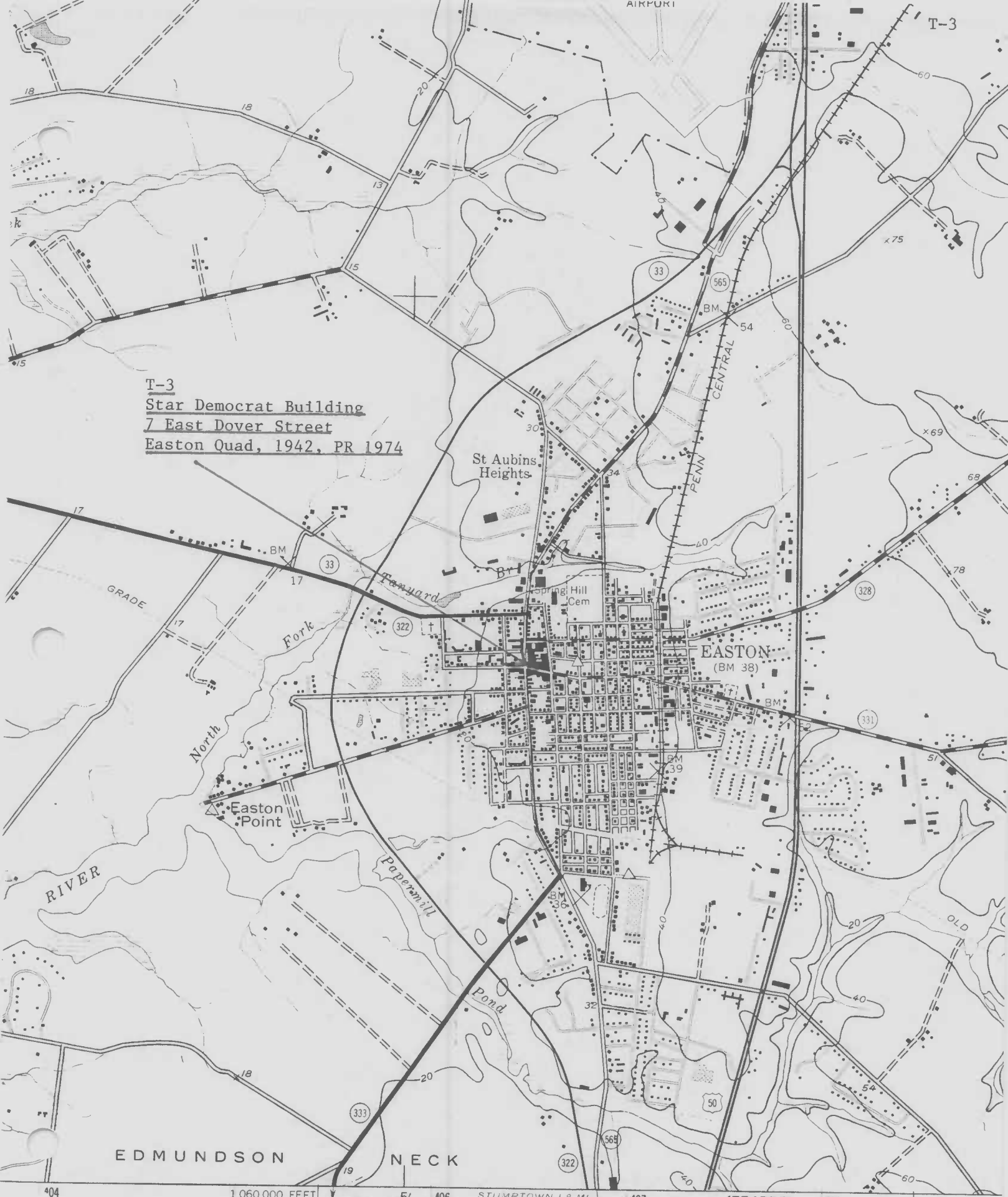
TALBOT CO.

Scale - 15 Rods to an inch

297

56h

T-3
Star Democrat Building
7 East Dover Street
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974



73% 3



11 x 1.82

T-3

(1)

Star Democrat Building

7 East Dover Street, Easton, MD

Southwest Elevation

p 141



EASTON, MD

T-3

VIEW TO NORTH

8/76

MLF

T. E. DOVER

J. Tyler Campbell
FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHY
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND





T-3

Star Democrat Building
7 East Dover Street, Easton
South Elev.